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THE UNITED STATES PATENTS AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

NIF-107

Applicant : Kazuyoshi Koizumi et al.
Title : ROTARY DAMPER
Serial No. : 10/572,378
Filed : March 16, 2006
Group Art Unit : 3683
Examiner : Mahbubur Rashid

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 29, 2010

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action of December 9, 2009.

In connection with the issue pertaining to the claim objection that it is not clear how the air movement passage connects two of the air retention portions, attention is called to passage structure 13a illustrated in Figs. 18 and 20 for example, and disclosed on page 6, lines 16-20 of the originally filed specification. Further mention of this structure will be made below.

In this Office Action claims 8-16 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takanobu (JP 05-044760) in view of Sugawara et al. (Sugawara). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

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